



11/1/05

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 365 (Hardiman)

SB 365 would rename the State Treasury Building as the Richard H. Austin Building.

- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 365 [RC 543: 36 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was not given to the bill [no RC]. For some reason, Hammerstrom asked to not give the bill IE. This was not controversial/contentious.

FINAL PASSAGE

HB 4726 (Mortimer)

HB 4726 would require officials in school districts to distribute information to parents about meningitis. Meningitis is a deadly infection that can often be prevented entirely if youngsters are vaccinated, or treated successfully when it is detected early. In order to overcome this disease, parents need more information about its prevalence, symptoms, and treatments. An effective way to disseminate information about the disease is through the public school system, where school officials already are required by law to inform parents and guardians about other diseases and vaccines.

- *Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.*
- *HB 4726 was moved to 3rd Reading.*
- **HB 4726 passed with IE [RC 544: 36 yes, 0 no].**

THIRD READING

SB 712 (Brown)

SB 712 would allow recreational card playing at nonresidential senior centers. Currently, Chapter 44 of the Code, which regulates gambling, does not apply to card playing at senior citizen housing facilities. The bill would extend that exemption to senior centers that are not housing facilities. The current exemption allows recreational card playing at any senior citizen housing facility that has at least 15 members who are 60 years of age or older and play cards solely for amusement or recreation. The card playing may not be used for fund-raising, and the number of guests playing cards may not exceed the number of participating members.

- **Brown 1 (S-1) was adopted.**

- SB 712 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 778 (Birkholz)

SB 778 would eliminate the December 31, 2005, sunset on a requirement that the Department of Environmental Quality, in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources, prepare a biennial environmental indicator report.

Over time, if they are continued, the biennial reports will constitute a valuable tool in managing the health of the environment in Michigan. They will provide a method to measure the success of the State's environmental programs and assess how limited resources can be used most effectively. As the more recent environmental indicator report pointed out, ". . . care should be taken not to understate or overstate the importance of a change that may be observed in any given environmental indicator from one two-year reporting period to the next. Two years is an extremely short time frame for a natural or human-influenced disturbance or corrective action to be realized within most ecosystems." Thus, for the reports to be truly useful in adjusting resource management strategies and developing stewardship policies, the sunset should be eliminated.

- SB 778 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4860 (Elsenheimer)

HB 4860 would add that a municipality would not be responsible for an unauthorized discharge from a sewerage system that is permitted and owned by a party other than the municipality, unless the municipality has accepted responsibility in writing for the sewerage system.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- HB 4860 was moved to 3rd Reading.

RESOLUTIONS

SCR 28 (Johnson)

A concurrent resolution to increase the total project cost of the Department of Corrections Riverside Correctional Facility Power Plant Automation project.

- SCR 28 was adopted [no RC].